

Ottawa Jewish Bulletin

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1945 - SHAVUOTH - 5705

Shavuoth, the Feast of Weeks, which celebrates the Revelation on Mount Sinai, will begin Thursday evening, May 17th, with Synagogue services at 8.30 p.m. (Mincha) and 8.45 p.m. (Maariv). The holiday extends through Friday and Saturday, May 18-19th.

Yizkor (Memorial Services) will be read on Saturday morning, May 19th.

During the Yom Tov Rabbi Oscar Z.

Fasman will deliver two sermons—on Friday morning at the Cong. Agudath Achim, Rideau St. (sermon topic: "The Secrecy Conference at Sinai") and on Saturday morning at the Cong. Adath Jeshurun, King Edward Ave. (sermon topic: "The Fragments of Life").

Occurring at the season of the summer harvest in the Holy Land, Shavuoth is also known as "Chag HaBikkurin" (Feast of the First Fruits) and it is therefore traditional to decorate the synagogue with plants. The custom of eating dairy foods originates, some believe, in the description of the Torah given at Sinai as "honey and milk" to the taste.

It is necessary to prepare an Eruv Tavshilin on Thursday afternoon, because the first day of Yom Tov precedes Shabbos.

Overseas Honor Roll

The following Ottawa men have arrived on active service overseas since the last issue of the Bulletin:

LAC CWINN, H.C.

ORD. SMN. CWINN, S.V.

If you know of any others, please get in touch with the Overseas Mailing Chairman, Mr. D. Mirsky, at 3-0676.

NEW SERVICE CENTRE CHAIRMAN

Mrs. E. Gittleson has been elected Chairman of the Jewish Service Centre, 228 Albert St., to succeed Mrs. B. Sanders, who resigned because of ill health.

Mrs. A. Logette recently received a letter of gratitude for the work of the Centre signed by more than one hundred servicemen.

L. Freiman Heads U. P. A.

The 1945 U. P. A. Campaign, to be launched at the Chateau Laurier Monday evening, May 14th, will be led by the Executive Committee shown here:

Hon. Vice-Chairman: Alex Betcherman.
Rabbi O. Z. Fasman, J. Freedman, S. J. Ritt, Mrs. B. M. Alexander, Mrs. A. H. Coplan.

Chairman: L. Freiman.

Co-Chairman: S. Zelikovitz.

Vice-Chairman: M. Betcherman, G. Caplan, L. S. Greenberg, H. Shinder, S. Spevak, J. Vineberg, M. Zagerman.

Treasurer: L. Petegorsky.

Hon. Sec'y: S. A. Kronick.

Sec'y: Miss Helen Abelson.

Capt. of Capts.: I Stone.

Co-Capt.: A. L. Achbar.

Ass't Capt.: J. Abelson, J. Eisenstadt, H. Greenblatt, S. Lepofsky, M. Levin, Chas. Lieberman, D. Zelikovitz, N. Zelikovitz.

Chairman of Special Names: A. Shaffer.

Co-Chairman: M. Greenberg, S. Miller.

Chairman of Ticket Committee: S. Spevak.

Chairman of Arrangements: M. B. Abrams.

Co-Chairman: M. Koffman.

Publicity Committee: L. Coplan, Dr. D. Petegorsky.

Civil Service Committee: H. N. Pearl.

Youth Committee: Dr. M. Fineman.

Colorful Personality at U. P. A.



Mr. M. WEISGAL

Mr. Meyer W. Weisgal, who recently accompanied Dr. Weizmann on an extensive tour through the Holy Land, will deliver the principal address at the 1945 U. P. A. meeting. The gathering will take place at the Chateau Laurier on Monday, May 14th, at 7.00 p.m.

Mr. Weisgal has to his credit a distinguished career as Zionist propagandist, journalist, and dramatist. He is known as the organizer of "The Romance of a People", which featured Jewish Day at the Chicago World's Fair in 1933 and was witnessed by some 130,000 people in Soldiers' Field. He co-operated with the late Max Reinhardt to produce one of the most spectacular presentations in the history of the American theater, Franz Werfel's "The Eternal Road." In the past few months he edited the volume, "Chaim Weizmann, Statesman and Scientist", recognized as an outstanding piece of Zionist literature.

Today Mr. Weisgal is the official American representative of Dr. Weizmann in the work of the Jewish Agency. He is widely known in Canada as the founder and former editor of "The Jewish Standard" of Toronto.

U. P. A.

The Chateau Laurier has put a ceiling on the number of tables we may have at the U. P. A. meeting. Make your reservation at once with S. Spevak, Moe Koffman, or Miss Helen Abelson.

The Ottawa Jewish Bulletin

Published Monthly By
THE OTTAWA JEWISH COMMUNITY COUNCIL
Oscar Z. Fasman, Rabbi

Thomas Sachs,	President.
S. J. Ritt,	Vice-President.
L. Freiman,	Vice-President.
A. Bookman,	Treasurer.
B. Pearl	Hon. Secretary.
Joseph Ages,	Executive Secretary.

Wartime Prices and Trade Board Exemption Certificate
No. 66, dated Feb. 9, 1943.

BE A BUILDER!

Of the destruction in Jewish life caused by Hitler we all know a great deal. Our newspapers bring us the ghastly details day after day. So many hundreds of thousands killed in this camp, so many tens of thousands gassed in that murder factory, so many tons of ashes that piled up after cremation in yet another spot—who in all the civilized world has not been shocked by the statistics? Who is not enraged as the authenticated reports of the unbelievable make him believe? And more than any other group Jews feel the horror, for the victims were mostly from their midst.

The imminent victory in Europe will put an end to the Nazi deeds of viciousness, but it will not bring back to life the millions who were done to death, nor will it enable the few who were fortunate enough to survive to resume their normal activities. A glass that has been pounded by a hammer does not return to its former function once the pounding ceases. The balance of European Jewry was at best very delicate, and it is flying in the face of reality to imagine that peace, no matter how ideal, will restore the fragments of Israel to their old positions. Ahead of us lie years of painstaking efforts and dedicated labor to achieve a new adjustment for our stricken race. All our genius must be rallied to the combined task of direct alleviation of suffering with the urgent need to plan constructively for the future. The providential light that breaks through the bitter darkness of our tragedy is the golden opportunity already available of reaching these two goals together. That opportunity reads Eretz Yisroel. This land is truly holy, since it can now add to its illustrious record of shaping the morality and ethics of mankind the mighty chapter of saving the remnants of Israel.

In this connection one cannot but recollect the disturbing rumors that come from Europe about the hardships besetting the Jews even under the governments of liberated territories. The attempts to establish again their economic rights and cultural institutions have not measurably succeeded, and not infrequently the shadow of political inequality floats over the Hebrew segment of the citizenry. Thus even in the question of salvaging Jewish dignity out of the rubble that is Europe we must look to the land of our forefathers. Dignity, too, stands within the circumference of holiness and must have the land that is holy.

The agency that operates steadily to build both the physical and the spiritual solution to these and a host of kindred problems is the group of Zionist causes

supported by the United Palestine Appeal. Once a year it comes to us with its challenge and summons. Once a year it invites us to share in the heroism of the Palestinian Jewish workers, who have opened more doors for our survival than White Papers have been able to close. You can, if you will, merely stand and survey in helpless grief the ruins of European Jewry; but you can, if you will, defy the ruins and their makers by being a builder. What do you choose?

THE RELIGIOUS DEED

Judaism is a religion of action. On the negative side it demands the energetic suppression of unworthy conduct; on the positive, the vigorous development of creative endeavour. Its portrait can be painted only with a dynamic brush; the colors are not of rest, but of motion. To study its Torah is not to absorb in mere passivity, but "lassok b'divre Torah," to wrestle with its concepts and to battle towards the citadel of their inner meaning. When the Jew wraps the prayer-shawl around himself, he remembers the commandments of the Lord—to do them.

In the system of Judaism contemplation is secondary, performance primary. Spinning a theory of charity cannot compare with giving a cloak to the naked, a loaf to the hungry. Even prayer is much more than the acceptance of heavenly grace. It is bowing willingly to the yoke in preparation for drawing human burdens or plowing the earth that feeds. The Synagogue without the charity box is as barren as without the reading platform, and the traditional swaying during the service has been interpreted as coming closer to our fellow men on the right and left of us, before and behind us.

It was told of the saintly Rabbi Israel Salanter, when he was too ill to go personally to supervise the baking of his Passover Matzoth, his students who were to represent him came for instructions. They wished to know what special precautions he wanted observed to guarantee the absolute kashruth of his unleavened bread. He mentioned only one point in which they were to be exceedingly careful. "The woman who does the baking has a very trying and difficult life; I warn you not to shout at her or become angry with her, if she happens to make a mistake".

Rabbinical literature seldom deals with metaphysics. Its philosophy rarely occurs in explicit form, and only out of its practical decisions can one reach towards its abstract premises. The starting point in 999 sections of a thousand in the Questions and Answers of our scholarly authors is not. What shall I think or believe? But what shall I do? The Jew cannot dream himself or reason himself into eternal salvation; he must work himself into it.

The Sinai of Shavuoth introduced into human affairs a master plan of effort. There is required a personal purification through the acknowledgement of man's Maker in prescribed ritual observances, to lead up to a glorious climax in the achievement of the social-minded community. One fixes a Mezuzah to his doorpost and is reminded to respect the rights of his man and maid servant. The arm that wears Tefillin must not muzzle the ox that threshes. The mouth that rejects the meat of swine must speak truth and sympathy. Aye, the Revelation did not come to lift man out of his world, but to direct his toil towards it. To labor with unselfish purpose—that is, above all, the instruction of our Feast of Weeks.

J. C. Horwitz, B. B. President

The recent elections of the Ottawa Bnai Brith Lodge brought another young man to its highest office, when Mr. J. C. Horwitz was unanimously chosen as President. To serve with him the Lodge called upon:

T. P. Metrick, Chaplain.

Abe Palmer, First Vice-Pres.

N. Kapinsky, second Vice-President

I Stone, Treasurer.

M. B. Margosches, Fin.-Sec'y.

Al Clavir, General Sec'y.

Mack Levin, Warden.

A. Lithwick, Guardian.

The six trustees are: Jess Abelson, Robert Goodman, Moe Koffman, J. Schmelzer, J. Winters, D. Zelikovitz. Delegates to the Canadian Conference of Bnai Brith (Toronto, May 6-7) will be: M. B. Margosches, T. P. Metrick, and J. C. Horwitz.

Mizrachi Summer Camp

The Rabbi considers it his duty to advise parents interested in a summer camp where the Jewish religion is thoroughly observed in the midst of modern surroundings that the Mizrachi Organization of Canada will conduct such a camp on its beautiful grounds near Toronto. For particulars get in touch with Mr. William Low at 4-2300.

SHABLOS AND YOM TOV CANDLES

May 11.....	8.02 p.m.
May 17.....	*8.09 p.m.
May 18.	8.10 p.m.
May, 25.	8.17 p.m.
June 1.	8.24 p.m.
June 8.....	8.29 p.m.

LEO HEAPS WINS M.C.

Lt. Leo Heaps, son of A. A. Heaps, has been awarded the Military Cross for heroism in the European theater of war. Details of the citation are not yet available, but it is known that Leo was in the thick of many critical actions beginning on D. Day.

Spevak Testimonial Dinner

On the occasion of his seventieth birthday, Mr. S. Spevak will be honored at a Testimonial Dinner to be given in the Talmuh Torah Hall on Monday, May 21st, at 6.30 p.m. The sponsoring organizations are the Zionist Council of Ottawa, the Hebrew Free Loan Association and the Ottawa J. D. C. Committee.

For many years Mr. Spevak has been an outstanding worker in the major campaigns for Zionism and various charitable causes. It is generally conceded that he has sold more tickets for more campaign dinners than any other individual, and his fund raising accomplishments were responsible for many a significant success.

A past president of Cong. Agudath Achim, he holds his highest office at present at the president of the local Mizrahi Organization.

Reservations must be made early with the Convener, Mrs. Rachel Bessin, at 3-9423.

KEY QUESTIONS

While waiting for progress on the new Community Center to be reported, ask yourself a few questions, such as:

1. Have I made my pledge?

2. Have I paid my pledge?

3. In view of what the project means for the future of Ottawa Jewry, is my pledge big enough, or could I do better?

4. Have I urged all my friends to do their share?

5. Can I not assist Mr. Stone in collecting in some of the cards still outstanding?

(His phone: 3-9284).

FATHER TO SON

For many years the late M. L. Greenberg was in charge of collections in Ottawa on behalf of the Ezras Torah fund, an organization that looks after the special needs of poor Talmidei Chachomim. Since his death, this service of charity is led by his son, L. S. Greenberg. Although the latter does an all-year job as chairman of the Jewish National Fund Council in Ottawa, he felt it was his duty to continue the tradition upheld by his late father.

Seven Girls To Graduate

The Ottawa Hebrew Sunday School will hold its Graduation Exercises at the Cong. Adath Jeshurun on Sunday, May 20th, at 3.00 p.m. The girls who will receive their diplomas from the President of the Vaad Ha'ir, Mr. Thos. Sachs, are: Sandra Belman, Esther Cohen, Elsa Glickman, Goldie Leikin, Constance Lepofsky, Molly Schreiber, Betty Slonemsky.

Class Valedictorian will be Constance Lepofsky, while the Anna Rill Award for outstanding scholarship will go to Esther Cohen.

Dr. David W. Petegorsky will deliver the main address of the afternoon, and the Adath Jeshurun Sisterhood will present each graduate with a Bible.

When Mrs. I. Zivian announces the annual awards, it will be her formal good-bye to a school whose devoted superintendent she has been for more than ten years. (The new business her husband has entered necessitates a change of family residence to Toronto.) Appreciation for her efforts has frequently been voiced at meetings of the Vaad Ha'ir.

Following the Blessing to the Graduates by the Rabbi, the Congregation will adjourn to the Synagogue Vestry Rooms, where the parents of the celebrants, under the convensorship of Mrs. S. Lepofsky, will hold an informal reception. Assisting will be the Mothers' Committee under the Chairmanship of Mrs. M. Zagerman and the Fathers' Group headed by Mr. Moe Koffman.

GUSTAV SOLMAN WOUNDED

Mrs. Gustav Solman (formerly Esther Dobrow), received official word in March that her husband, Pte Gustav Solman was wounded in action. The same day that this message reached her, Rabbi Fasman received a letter from him, dated "Somewhere in Germany". Among other things he writes: "It has been nice through Esther's letters and by the publications she sent to maintain some contact with the goings on in the Jewish sphere in Ottawa. I certainly appreciated receiving parcels from Ottawa organizations. I think that Ottawa does well in all ways in the maintenance of social, religious and charitable activities and in war work."

"Upon getting home and getting back to a normal existence I shall be happy to play my part in the communal life. Wherever I have been overseas it has been fine to make contacts with Jewish people in a social and religious way. Yes, if a man seeks he can easily find those only too ready to welcome and help him while away from home."

Inspiring T. T. Graduation Planned

The second graduation in the history of the Ottawa Talmud Torah is being planned as an inspirational occasion in the history of the local community. There will be a Sabbath service on Saturday, May 26th, in the Adath Jeshurun Synagogue, when the graduates will conduct the entire service, and read the whole Sidrah of Naso. The next day, Sunday, May 27th, the main exercises will be held in the Cong. Agudath Achim (Rideau St.) at 3.00 p.m., with the graduates delivering a series of addresses in Hebrew, Yiddish and English. The following will receive their diplomas upon completion of a course that led from Aleph Beth through Chumash, T'noch, Rashi and Gemarra: Carl Baylin, Ben Greenberg, Dov Kravetz, Lionel Rabin, Norman Tanenbaum, Harold Zelikovitz.

A CHRISTIAN FASTS

Because of Jewish suffering throughout the world, last March 14th was proclaimed a fast day by the world rabbinate. The following anonymous letter with a cash enclosure of \$3.00 reached the Rabbi two days later: "Dear Rabbi: I am enclosing \$3.00 for charity, as I could not fast. Please give it where you see fit."

"Also I want to mention a young gentle woman who works with us and fasted all day Wednesday, which we think was very nice."

Thanking you, I am,
Yours truly,
A Friend."

DO YOU KNOW THAT

The Ottawa Hebrew Sunday School recently received a substantial addition to its Library by a gift of Mrs. A. Belman in memory of her late husband. . . As co-President of the Mizrahi Organization of Canada, the name of Rabbi O. Z. Fasman is included in the signatures to the Brief submitted by the Zionist Organizations of Canada to the Dominion delegates at the San Francisco Conference. . . His name appeared over the review of the important book, "Chaim Weizmann, Statesman and Scientist" in the Ottawa Evening Journal of April 28th. . . Having heard of the starvation in Holland, vividly described by many Ottawa soldiers now there, the Vaad Ha'Ir authorized Mrs. Roberts to use some of the funds she and her Group of Jewish Ladies recently raised for food parcels. . . Our own Capt. I. B. Rose has succeeded in getting Canadian men overseas to plant a forest in Eretz Yisroel in memory of fallen Jewish servicemen.

Club In Splendid Program

The Hanoar Study and Breakfast Club, sponsored by the Ottawa Vaad Ha'Ir, wound up an outstanding year of activities with a Fathers and Sons morning on April 22nd at the Cong. Adath Jeshurun. The boys who distinguished themselves were Ted Friedgut, who won a set of Graetz "History of the Jews" presented by Mr. Lawrence Freiman for a winning essay on Tolerance; Marvin Schreiber, who won the Joel Zagerman Memorial Award presented by Rabbi O. Z. Fasman for best exemplifying the high ideals of Breakfast Club loyalty in the spirit of the late Joel Zagerman; and Harold Sachs, who won the Cup presented by Mr. Robert Edelstein for winning the oratorical contest. Honourable mention went to Norman Tannenbaum, Irving Altman and Lawrence Freedman.

Mr. Thos. Sachs, president of the Vaad Ha'Ir, and Mr. L. S. Greenberg, chairman of the committee, paid tribute to the excellent work of Director Hy Bessin and Assistant Director Yale Greenberg. Mrs. O. Z. Fasman spoke in place of her husband, who was on duty at Petawawa.

MARVIN SCHREIBER NATIONAL WINNER

On Sunday, April 29th, in Montreal Marvin Schreiber, son of Rev. and Mrs. S. Schreiber, won the national oratorical contest sponsored by the Zionist Organization of Canada. Ottawa is very proud of his achievement, especially since his oratorical abilities were first discovered in our own Hanoar Study and Breakfast Club.

KIZELL MEMORIAL TORAH

Mr. and Mrs. Norman Kizell have given a beautiful Sefer Torah to Cong. Adath Jeshurun in memory of the late Mr. and Mrs. Moses Kizell. The presentation included a magnificent Kether (Crown) the silver decorative plate and the silver Yad.

The Siyum was held in the Synagogue shortly before Passover in the presence of the immediate family. Rabbi O. Z. Fasman and Cantor J. Rabin conducted the simple ceremony, and the veteran Mr. M. Held acted as the Sofer.

LETTERS FROM OVERSEAS

Almost all the letters received by the Rabbi from overseas during the past several weeks describe the Seder conducted by Hon. Capt. Samuel Cass in Holland. The most dramatic symbol mentioned by Lt. E. Gluck were the holiday candles caught in cross drafts, yet bravely giving their light to the very end. The participants were reminded of Israel.

Message of U. P. A. Chairman



"As these lines are being written, the thoughts of the world dwell upon reconstruction. The German monster has been conquered, but the ruins of his making leave their vast challenge.

"For the Jewish people the task is tremendous, the responsibility grave and urgent. We who are in a position to help must find a solution adequate to the immensity of the problem. In seeking the answer the least we can do is consult with our brethren in Europe to know their desire.

"That desire has been expressed in every part of the continent. The big majority of those who want to fly from the lands of painful memory plead for a chance to go to Eretz Yisroel. We must listen to their cry with more than mere sympathy.

"In other words we must provide the means to help them begin life anew. We must prepare land, purchase tools and equipment, build houses, erect schools, expand health facilities—and we must do these things at once. The U.P.A. has the organization and the personnel in the Holy Land to do the work with a maximum of efficiency in a minimum space of time. But it needs money! It needs very large sums to meet the emergency!

"Let us respond next Monday evening, May 14th, at the Chateau Laurier to the full measure of the crisis."

L. FREIMAN, 1945 U. P. A. Chairman.

FOR GALLANTRY

Staff Sergeant Jack Cornblatt, son of the late Mr. Max Cornblatt, has been mentioned in dispatches for gallantry on active service overseas.

Sergeant William Feller, son of Mr. and Mrs. Saul Feller, has been mentioned in dispatches for gallantry on active service overseas.

Ottawa Jewry is proud to add the deeds of these men to its distinguished war record.